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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia
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1. Electrification of the Spišská Nova Ves - Margecany - Kosice - Cierna nad Tisou railway line should be completed before 1952. The existing track will be used up to the Margecany - Kysak sector, where the track will have to be relaid, since a hydro-electric power plant is to be erected there. The following alternatives are being considered for the re-laying of this stretch:
 - a. To run the electrified track along the route of the old one but on higher ground. This choice is not viewed favorably in official circles;
 - b. To run the track to Siroka, from Siroka to Presov, then to electrify the existing track from Presov to Kysak, where it would join the original line.
2. A second line is to be laid from Kosice to Cierna nad Tisou. This work is included in the Five-Year Plan but cannot be carried out in the allotted time because of a shortage of labor.
3. A second track is being constructed along the route Zilina - Vrutky - Poprad - Spišská Nova Ves. This should be ready for operation by the end of 1949. In November 1949, the groundwork was almost completed, with the exception of a sector about 100 meters long near Skladna Skala where a deep cutting is being made in stony ground, but only a small number of workers can be used because of limited space. In other sectors of the line the rails were laid by November 1949 and finishing work was in progress. The Vrutky - Sutovo sector was already completed and in use, and the Sutovo - Kralovany, Sutovo - Sucany, and Hrboltova - Parizovce sectors were very nearly finished.
4. In the Kralovany - Turany sector of the Kosice - Bohumin railway, a second track was completed and put into operation in November 1949.

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